

Puente, Stamcm celebrating their debuts in the ring with Warrior MMA Club

September 11, 2019



Two Crescent City boxers made their debuts in the squared circle Aug. 24 and left a big impression on the competition.

Representing Crescent City's Warrior MMA were Chris Puente and Baily Stamm, appearing at the Spartan Fighting the Good Fight Second-Annual Boxing Event in the Medford (Oregon) Armory.

Six boxing associations entered 48 fighters in 24 fights.

Technically, this was Stamm's second scheduled fight, but his opponent was a no-show at the previous event. Fighting at 151 pounds, the 19-year-old welterweight put on a show for the crowd of more than 200, earning a unanimous decision in the three-round bout and fight-of-the-night honors.

"In the third round alone, we counted 30 straight left-hand jabs he landed right to the guy's nose," said Warrior MMA boxing coach Pete Blancarte. "He looked good, had good footwork."

“Once he found something that worked, he stuck right with it. Definitely earned fight-of-the-night.”

Puente, his coaches agreed, also could have earned fight-of-the-night honors. The 23-year-old made his debut in the ring at 191 pounds, as a light heavyweight.

Puente’s endless body shots exhausted his opponent, who was unable to answer the bell for the third round, which gave Puente the win by technical knockout.

“I had no real goal going in, just hoping to come out with a ‘W,’” Puente said. Was he surprised with result? “Nah.”

His coach, Bryan Sargent, knew Puente’s strength going into the fight. “I was sparring with Chris, and his opponent was built like I am. So, I told him to fight him like he was fighting me.

“I had to quit with him. I had to yell, ‘Stop! Stop!’ Luckily, he did with me,” Sargent said. “I told him to make this guy quit like I did.

“I think that’s why Chris didn’t get fight-of-the night, because his match finished early and Stamm’s went all three rounds.”

Blancarte said he wasn’t surprised with Stamm’s and Puente’s success in their debuts. “Once our fighters go and fight, we leave a lasting memory.

We set the tone, as USA boxing coaches.

“First thing is to put them in there. We make sure they’re trained well and conditioned well,” he said.

Warrior MMA’s participation in the regional boxing season normally begins in March, with the last fights of the year in November.

Located at 2655 Lake Earl Dr., Warrior MMA also offers a boxing conditioning program. The boxing program is on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30.

For more information, call 707-460-0235.